

Shared Intelligence Resource Shared Intelligence Resource Program

Law enforcement agencies have for years collected intelligence information during the course of their daily activities. The private sector has over the years established its own networking to obtain intelligence information during the course of their daily business. The classifications of intelligence information by these separate industries can be different, but the essence of this information is highly sought after as a crucial resource for both law enforcement and the private sector. Fusion centers are the working solution for state and local law enforcement to collect, analyze and disseminate actionable information. These centers evolved following the 9/11 attacks and received initial funding from the Department of Homeland Security. "Fusion centers are established by State and local governments designed to coordinate the gathering, analysis and dissemination of law enforcement, public safety and terrorism information......Fusion Center Guidelines -Developing and Sharing Information and Intelligence in a New Era." Operational centers are the working solution for major private sector companies to collect, examine, evaluate and circulate actionable information to management. The information is used for planning, preparedness, response and reaction when company assets, proprietary interests or critical infrastructure are vulnerable or at risk.

Since 9/11 forward, it has become increasingly palpable that law enforcement and the private sector partner together on a multitude of issues regarding terrorism, criminal activity and all hazards preparedness and responsiveness. In

Illinois, the Private Sector Alliance Project (PSAP)/ Infrastructure Security Awareness Program (ISA) is an initiative that unites the fusion center and the private sector engaged in protecting critical infrastructures through communications networking. "The private sector controls 85% of America's infrastructure" (http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/book/sect3-3.pdf) and Federal, State and local public safety entities must be engaged in the awareness and protection of these critical assets. A pilot enterprise for fusion centers across the country with private sector outreach programs to consider adopting is the ASIS International and Illinois' Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (ST&IC) "Shared Intelligence Resource", SIR Program. ASIS corporate membership can donate tax-deductible monies through the ASIS Foundation to fund the salaries of contractual analysts at ST&IC. The contractual analysts will work in conjunction with Terrorism Research Specialists and Criminal Intelligence Analysts in a 24X7 environment at ST&IC to enhance information sharing, communications and resource deployment with the private sector.

These dedicated Private Sector Analysts will be committed to examining and evaluating all available sources of information. Through their daily research and analysis at ST&IC, relevant information will be disseminated to the private sector for awareness, preparedness and response-to-inquiries purposes. Types of information and intelligence products include: a) sector-specific threat assessments and trend analyses; b) intelligence requirements regarding topic-specific materials; c) daily briefings/daily intelligence notes to include significant incidents within the last 24 hours; d) major